

James Winslow Gatehouse
East side of U. S. Route 9, opposite
Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery, about
1/4 mile south of Academy Street
at south city limits
Poughkeepsie
Dutchess County
New York

HABS No. NY-4389

HABS
NY,
H. POKEP,
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. NY-4389

JAMES WINSLOW GATEHOUSE

HABS
NY,
14-POKER
3-

Location: East side of U. S. Route 9, opposite Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery, about 1/4 mile south of Academy Street at south city limits, Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York.

Present Owner and Use: The building has been dismantled and the decorative details and building materials are in storage, awaiting possible re-erection. The owner is Mr. Benjamin W. Frazier of Garrison, New York.

Statement of Significance: The Winslow Gatehouse is an excellent, locally well-known example of the Gothic Revival style adapted for a relatively modest domestic structure. The gatehouse was known locally in the twentieth century as the "Pink House" because of the color it had been painted in recent years.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: On April 1, 1850, Nathan Jewett and Jane, his wife, sold 29 acres, plus, on which this structure eventually was erected, to Henry Stanton for \$4,652.19. On July 11, 1857 (109:604 Dutchess County Court House), Henry Stanton and Margaret, his wife, of the City of New York conveyed the 29 acres, plus, to James Winslow for \$20,000. Mr. Frederick Bergen owned the structure in the twentieth century, previous to the sale to the State of New York. Further research in county records should reveal other changes of title.
2. Date of erection: Mid-nineteenth century.
3. Architect: The building has been attributed locally to Andrew Jackson Downing; however, Downing was drowned with the sinking of the "Henry Clay," July 28, 1852. If this structure is indeed a gatehouse constructed as part of the Winslow estate - a fact not yet proven - then it is definite that the building is not "directly" designed by Downing for Winslow, but built following a pattern.

- B. Recent History: The Winslow Gatehouse was photographed by National Park Service photographer Jack E. Boucher on February 27, 1961. At that time it was owned by the State

of New York and was scheduled for demolition because the proposed arterial highway - connecting the Post Road, south and north, with the Mid-Hudson Bridge - was to use this land. Correspondence dated September 11, 1963, from Mrs. Amy Ver Nooy, Secretary of the Dutchess County Historical Society, revealed these facts and also suggested that Mr. Benjamin W. Frazier of Garrison, New York, had purchased the structure for reconstruction on another site. In a subsequent telephone conversation in May 1965, Mr. Frazier indicated that he had purchased the property from the State in 1962 for \$101.00, had had the structure dismantled, and was holding it in storage awaiting the selection of a suitable site. He also indicated that the main Winslow House still stands and is a part of an Episcopal home for the blind.

Prepared by John C. Poppeliers
Architectural Historian
National Park Service
May 1965

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Miniature example of early "gingerbread" architecture along the Hudson River.
2. Condition of fabric: Very good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: 38' (three-bay front) x 30'.
2. Foundations: Brick, with trace of some stone. About 16" thick.
3. Wall construction: Stuccoed double brick walls - about 12" thick average.
4. Porches: Porch on all four corners and across front, probably added or changed in recent years. Floor of porch is concrete. Ceiling is of 5" planks, beaded on one edge.
5. Chimneys: Single brick chimney, capped with four chimney pots.

6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: Main entry has a four-paneled wooden door; pointed head, label trim. Also two other doors on rear of structure.
- b. Windows and shutters: No shutters. Windows have cast-cement labels. "Dormer" windows are 27" x 62"; one-over-one light, double-hung sash. There are several pointed "Gothic" windows with seven-over-seven light, double-hung wooden sash; a "Gothic" casement window on the second floor over the main entry has eleven lights in each section.

7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Intersecting gable roofs, with slate shingles, having about 5" to the weather.
- b. Cornice: Gothic "gingerbread" wooden cornice.
- c. Dormers: Heavy, hooded dormers with wooden moldings and elaborate scrolls and wooden pinnacles.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: Modified cruciform plan with central hall.
2. Stairways: Wooden stairway with 10" x 35" treads (generally) with 8" rise; twelve steps to second floor executing 1/4 turn. Similar staircase to basement.
3. Flooring: 8-1/2" to 10" board flooring.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster direct on brick walls; paint finish.
5. Doorways and doors: 42" x 7' over all. Four-panel 1-1/2" thick doors with visible mortise and tenon joining.
6. Trim: Relatively simple wooden trim.
7. Hardware: Porcelain knobs on doors. Modern iron hinges.
8. Lighting: Electricity with concealed conduits.
9. Heating: Modern oil heat. Two fireplaces, one in cellar and one on second floor, in line. Cellar fireplace also has bake oven and firebox. First-floor fireplace opening is 38" x 31" high; plain wooden mantel, crane hooks on left side. Cellar fireplace is 36" x 30-1/2" wide, with

crane hooks. Bake oven - 10" x 14" wide; firebox is 18" x 20" wide and is made of brick.

D. Site:

1. Orientation: Front elevation faces due west.
2. Enclosures: Decorative iron fence.
3. Outbuildings: None.
4. Walks, driveways: Gravel.
5. Landscaping, gardens: None.

Prepared by Jack E. Boucher
Photographer
National Park Service
February 1961